

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication that claims 1-3 contain patentably subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being in complete for omitting essential steps. The ground of rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

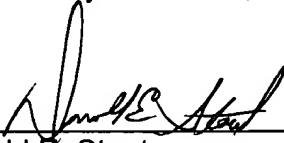
Newly submitted claims 4-7 have been drafted to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Independent claims 4 and 6 define the methods of the present invention with a scope which the Applicants consider to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. It is submitted that there is no omission of any essential steps in view of the claims being indicated to be patentable over the prior art. The Examiner is reminded that in the absence of prior art the Applicants are permitted to claim the subject matter which they regard as their invention in a broad manner without reciting steps which the Applicants do not regard as their invention as defined by the current claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to

Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 612.39352X00) and please credit
any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald E. Stout", is written over a horizontal line.

Donald E. Stout
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ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

DES/kmh

Attachments